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JEE-ADVANCED 2021 TOPPER SCORES 348 OUT OF 360 MARKS

Mridul Agarwal from Delhi zone topped JEE-Advanced this year by scoring the highest-ever marks in the IIT entrance exam

FEMALE TOPPER BAGS 286 MARKS, 98TH RANK

The 17-year-old, who hails from Rajasthan, had also scored 100 percentile in JEE-Main exam and shared the top rank with 17 others. He now plans to pursue B Tech in Computer Science from IIT Bombay. The second and third ranks were bagged by Delhi's Dhananjay Raman and Anant Lunia. Among females, Kavya Chopra emerged the topper scoring 286 marks, ranked 98

NUMBER OF QUALIFYING GIRLS DROPS

- A total of 41,862 candidates have qualified in JEE-Advanced this year, of whom 6,452 (15.41%) are females. Out of the 43,204 who qualified last year during Covid peak, 6,707 (15.52%) were girls
- Among the qualified are 7,737 SC candidates, 2,764 ST and 9,150 OBC. Plus, 5,144 from economically weaker section | P7, 9

JEE-Advanced
IS THE ENTRANCE EXAM FOR ADMISSIONS TO INDIAN INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

BHAGWAT SEEKS POLICY REVAMP ON POPULATION

MANISH ANAND @ New Delhi

HARD Hindutva appeared on the horizon as RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Friday pushed for revisiting the population policy, scorned at state control of temples, sought tough measures against illegal immigrants, regulation of internet-based OTT content and further "unification of J&K" with the rest of the country.

His annual Vijayadashmi address gave a glimpse of the agenda, as the NDA government at the Centre enters its eighth year in power, while the BJP will be up against a charged Opposition to defend party-ruled states in polls next year.

Bhagwat argued that the population percentage of religions of Indian origin has been consistently declining as against a rising Muslim head count. He demanded a revamp of the population policy keeping the next 50 years in mind, adding it must be uniformly enforced across all communities and religions.

Citing the situation in West Bengal and Assam, Bhagwat toughened his stance against illegal immigrants, demanding withdrawal of the citizenship granted to some of them as also land ownership.

Turning to the issue of temple control, Bhagwat said in the South, they are mostly run by the state, though they lack proper governance, with interference by people who are "irreligious and unethical heretics". Stressing on collectivism, which is seen as a message for the consolidation of Hindus castes, Bhagwat sought to restore the status of temples as the fulcrum of society, which can spur Hindu revivalism.

Bhagwat saw in the targeted killings of minorities in Kashmir a clear design to stoke fear. Noting that there had been gains after the abrogation of Article 370, Bhagwat sought further integration of J&K, which is likely to be an indication for easing curbs on outsiders for settling and doing business there.

Expressing anguish over the face-off between Assam and Mizoram police, he asked, "Are we not citizens of the same country?"

WHERE HE STANDS

Temples: Hand over operating rights of Hindu temples to Hindus. Wealth of Hindu temples must be used for worship of deities and welfare of Hindu community only

J&K: Targeted killings of national minded citizens – especially Hindus – to destroy their morale and re-establish a reign of terror

Taliban: Its stance has alternated between Kashmir and peace talks. Our military must be prepared for all eventualities

Bitcoins: Clandestine, uncontrolled currency; has potential to destabilise economy

OTT platforms: Broadcasts unregulated; difficult to predict how it will affect society. But how anti-national forces wish to use it is well-known

GRAND DASARA FINALE

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and other dignitaries offer flowers to Goddess Chamundeshwari at the start of the Jamboo Savari on the occasion of Vijayadashami in Mysuru on Friday | UDAYSHANKAR S | P7

Power supply will not be hit, claims minister

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

WHILE there is all-round concern over electricity generation in the light of the coal shortage at thermal power plants, Karnataka Energy Minister V Sunil Kumar has brushed aside any possibility of power outages. Speaking to *The New Indian Express*, he insisted that "power supply will not be affected." But the Opposition is not willing to buy into the minister's claims.

Congress legislature party leader Siddaramaiah cautioned, "There was no power shortage until now. The government should not create an artificial coal deprivation with the intention of handing over power generation to the private sector. If that is the case, I strongly object to it."

Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee president D K Shivakumar felt that there has been no proper planning on the part of the authorities. "I am following the power situation and coal availability. We'll know in a few days if the government will resort to power cuts," he said.

Former CM and JDS leader H D Kumaraswamy noted, "This government will give false assurances till the last minute and not reveal the actual problem. We will will know the real situation in a day or two." CONTINUED ON: P4

EXPRESS READ

HIT-AND-RUN

1 dead as SUV runs over Durga idols immersion procession

Raipur: In an appalling hit-and-run case, reminiscent of the recent Lakhimpur incident, one person died and 17 others were injured when an SUV rammed into a Durga idols immersion procession at Pathalgaon in Chhattisgarh's Jashpur. Locals chased the vehicle and beat up its occupants about 15 km away from the tragic spot, when they were trying to burn the SUV. Police found drugs in the car | P10

Dalit man brutally killed at farmers' protest site

BJP targets Tikait

BJP IT cell head Amit Malviya said had Rakesh Tikait not justified mob lynching in Lakhimpur, the Singhu murder would not have happened

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

IN a shocking incident, a 35-year-old Dalit man was lynched, his left wrist chopped off and his body bearing numerous deep wounds caused by sharp-edged weapons was found tied to a police barricade near the main protest site at Singhu near the Delhi-Haryana border on Friday.

The victim, Lakhbir Singh, hailing from Cheema Khurd village in Punjab's Tarn Taran, was working for the Nihang Sikhs, police said.

The Samyukta Kisan Morcha said the Nihangs have claimed responsibility for the killing saying the man tried to desecrate the Sarbloh Granth, the holy book of the Sikhs.

Singh was reportedly tied with ropes and his hand was chopped off. Deep wounds were inflicted on his chest and legs also. Initially, he was hanged upside down. After he died due to excessive bleeding, his body was positioned upright, sources said.

A Nihang, Sarabjeet Singh, has surrendered before the police taking responsibility for the killing.

Chennai Super Kings defeated Kolkata Knight Riders by 27 runs to win their fourth IPL title at Dubai International Stadium on Friday. Faf du Plessis (86) took Chennai to a huge total of 192/3. Kolkata managed only 165/9 | SPORTZPICS, IPL

101
INDIA'S RANKING ON GLOBAL HUNGER INDEX

The Centre on Friday questioned the 'unscientific' Global Hunger Index after India's rank was lowered to 101 from its 2020 position of 94. The 2021 ranking puts India behind Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal. The report is "devoid of ground reality and facts", the Centre said. However, the Congress took potshots at the BJP-led government saying India is now in the league of poor countries such as Afghanistan, Nigeria, Congo, etc | P9

NATIONWIDE	OCT 14	OCT 15
Fresh cases	18,987	16,862
Recoveries	19,808	19,391
Deaths	226	379

KARNATAKA	OCT 14	OCT 15
Fresh cases	310	470
Recoveries	347	368
Deaths	6	9

Positivity rate drops below 1% in K'taka | P3

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